



Leisure and Hospitality Jobs as a Percent of Total Private Jobs in U.S.



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Over time, the economy expands, incomes rise and the standard of living in the United States continues to increase. In this process, new knowledge and technology is incorporated into ever-changing patterns of commerce. Our time is appropriately referred to as the information age, with an increasing share of the workforce moving out of goods-producing activities into service-producing activities.


Nowhere is the changing structure of economic activity more evident than in the increasing demand for food and drink, recreation, amusement and lodging. For the purposes of keeping track of the economy, the U.S. government has grouped these and related activities into a broad industrial sector – “leisure and hospitality.”

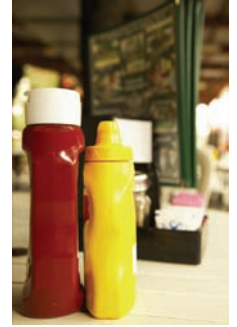
In 1970, the leisure and hospitality industry accounted for about 8.2 percent of all private nonfarm employment. Over time, Americans are choosing to eat out more and increasingly pursuing sporting activities and the arts – as spectators and participants. They are also engaging in a wide variety of other recreational, amusement, and travel activities. By 2003, private sector employment in leisure and hospitality had increased to 11.4 percent.

With its abundant outdoor recreational opportunities, scenic beauty, many national and state parks, world class skiing, and other tourist attractions, Utah would naturally seem to be a place with a high degree of business activity in leisure and hospitality. Out of the 50 States and the District of Columbia, Utah ranks 22nd in the percentage of private sector jobs in leisure and hospitality at 11.6 percent. When you divide leisure and hospitality up into seven smaller industry categories, Utah, surprisingly looks quite similar to the breakout found in the nation as a whole.

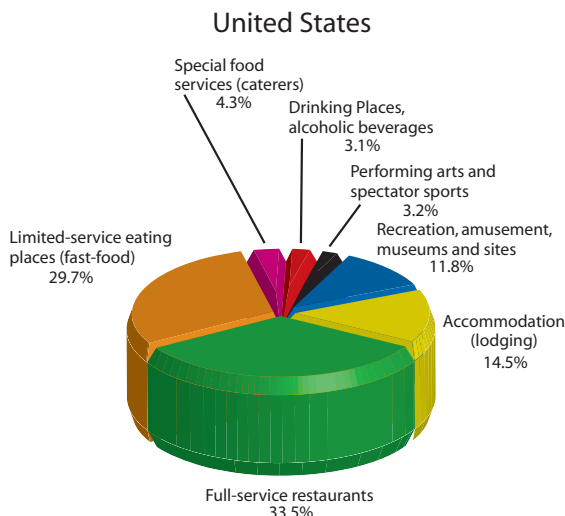
Utah does have relatively more private sector jobs in recreation and lodging than the national average because of the tourist draw of our outdoor activities – particularly winter skiing. Utah ranks third, behind Colorado and New Hampshire in the proportion of its private

jobs located at skiing facilities. While the proportion of private Utah workers in the ski industry is just 0.34 percent, this is a little more than ten times the national average of just 0.03 percent. The direct ski industry jobs seem to be few but they support other leisure and hospitality jobs at restaurants and hotels. This is also true for many other Utah recreational pursuits – boating, hunting, camping, river running, hiking and site seeing.

As we become more prosperous as a nation, people will seek to broaden their recreational, leisure and travel opportunities. So into the future, leisure and hospitality will continue to play an important role in the economic life of the United States and in Utah. 

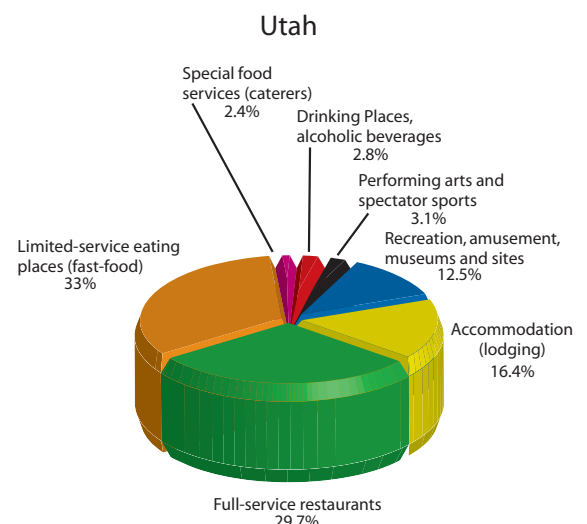


2003 Distribution of Jobs in the Leisure and Hospitality Industry for Utah and U.S.



Total leisure and hospitality Jobs 12,162,238 or 11.36 percent of private nonfarm jobs.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statics



Total leisure and hospitality jobs 99,560 or 11.62 percent of private nonfarm jobs.